

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 STR-08 DRC-01 /157 W

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R 291617Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1247

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 30585

E.O. 11652: GDS-DECLASSIFY DEC 31, 1979

TAGS: ENRG OECD

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 28, 1973 MEETING OF SELECTED HEADS OF
DELEGATION ON OIL QUESTIONS.

1. SUMMARY. SECGEN USED MEETING OF HEADS OF THOSE
DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED ON OIL COMMITTEE'S HIGH LEVEL GROUP
(A) TO PRESENT A TENTATIVE SUGGESTION FOR IMPROVING THE
OECD'S ARRANGEMENTS FOR GATHERING INFORMATION ON THE
EVOLVING OIL SUPPLY SITUATION, AND (B) TO PURSUE A PROCESS
OF SOUNDING OUT KEY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ON THE POSSIBILITY
OF A MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR THE OECD IN RELATION TO SELECTED
ASPECTS OF OIL POLICY. ACTION REQUESTED: ANY VIEWS ON
THOSE POINTS RAISED BY SECGEN AND OTHER DELEGATIONS
DESCRIBED IN DETAIL BELOW WHICH WASHINGTON WOULD LIKE
TO HAVE PUT FORWARD AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THIS GROUP,
WHICH HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 5.
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END SUMMARY.

2. OIL SUPPLY INFORMATION. SECGEN STATED THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE PREVENTING AGREEMENT ON REACTIVATION OF IIAB WHILE SUBSTITUTE ARRANGEMENTS (WANSIND-COMPANY DIALOGUE, INFORMATION FROM USG ON RESULTS OF EPSC SUBCOMMITTEE'S WORK, AND SECRETARIAT QUESTIONNAIRE TO GOVERNMENTS) NOT FULLY ADEQUATE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WISHES MEMBERS TO CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR THE COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE SECGEN TO CONVOKE OIL COMPANIES TO MEET INFORMALLY HERE AND REPORT JOINTLY ON OIL SUPPLY SITUATION.

COMMENT: IN ESSENCE SECGEN SUGGESTED REDUCING POLITICAL EMANATIONS OF DECISION TO REACTIVATE IIAB BY TRANSFERRING ACT OF CONVOCAION FROM COUNCIL TO SECGEN, AND BY NOT USING TITLE OF IIAB FOR GROUP OF OIL COMPANIES IN QUESTION. I SEE LITTLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS PROCEDURE AND THE ONE WHICH WANSINK HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO USE BY THE OIL COMMITTEE, BUT I BELIEVE WE SHOULD LET THE EEC COUNTRIES SORT THIS ONE OUT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

3. BUNKERS. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION NORWEGIAN DEL, ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, REQUESTED OTHER DELS TO INFORM SECRETARIAT IF THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES ON BUNKERING DURING OIL CRISIS. JAPANESE DEL AGREED BUNKERING BECOMING SERIOUS PROBLEM AND WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS IN OECD, THOUGH MUCH OF PROBLEM ARISES IN NON-OECD PORTS. BOTH NETHERLANDS DEL AND I AGREED ON IMPORTANCE OF QUESTION BUT AS PRELIMINARY REACTION WONDERED WHETHER IT COULD BE SEPARATED FROM GENERAL QUESTION OF APPORTIONMENT.

4. OIL POLICY QUESTIONS. SECGEN RAISED FOR REFLECTION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE DISCUSSION SERIES OF QUESTIONS ABOUT POSSIBLE ROLE FOR OECD IN OIL POLICY MATTERS. IS THERE A ROLE FOR OECD IN RELATION TO THE LIMITATION OF UNCONTROLLED BIDDING FOR PARTICIPATION OIL, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE CONNECTION ESTABLISHED BY OPEC BETWEEN POSTED PRICES AND SO-CALLED MARKET PRICES? IS THERE A ROLE FOR OECD IN ASSOCIATING OIL PRODUCERS WITH INTERNATIONAL DELIBERATIONS ON MONETARY AND OTHER ECONOMIC QUESTIONS OF DIRECT INTEREST TO THEM? INITIAL REACTIONS OF DELS NONCOMMITAL AND CAUTIOUS, AS WAS TO BE EXPECTED.
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5. FUTURE MEETINGS. GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN ON DECEMBER 5, ESPECIALLY TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 ABOVE. DELS GENERALLY FAVORABLE TO USE OF THIS FORUM FOR FURTHER EXCHANGES OF VIEW.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, POLICIES, SUPPLIES, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OECDP30585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973115/aaaaadm.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOVEMBER 28, 1973 MEETING OF SELECTED HEADS OF DELEGATION ON OIL QUESTIONS.
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005